

AUGUST 21, 2014

The Town Council met in regular session at the Town Hall at 5:00 p.m.

Present were: STRAW, GIBBS, WARRUM, WALKER, and WILSON along with Clerk-Treasurer Karla Atkins and Attorney Adam Farrar.

The following visitors were present: Rebecca Harvey, Bobby Grider, Virginia Alsop, Brenda Drone, Angie Woodburn, Alvin & Jennifer Blaylock, Barb McConnell, Dan Barton, Mary Hidbrader, Sue Buller, P.E. Harry, Jody Chapman, David Flanders, Caroline Williams, Jerry Walden, Jackie Hemauer, Valerie Seifert, Sam Champlin, Eli Frashier, William Krowl, Betty Gibbs, Laura Nicholson, Vince McCarthy, Stephen Lucas, Amy Moore, Ben Nicholson, Valerie Werkmeister, Angie & Bill Hein, Ken & Sue Krozel, Greg Cox, Connie Buller, Lynn Schaeffer, Jacob Frederick, Angela Davis, Daniel Happe, Zack Davis, Rex Morris, and Kim Gates.

Councilman Warrum made and Walker seconded a motion the minutes of the previous regular and special meetings meeting be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Walker announced that John Dailey had resigned effective August 15. Ads are being placed for his replacement. Jeremy Farrar has been hired as the certified operator for both water and wastewater for the interim.

Councilman Walker reported Lehman Roofing has been hired to replace the roof at the wastewater treatment plant. The estimate for the job is \$14,826.

Councilman Walker announced Pat Callahan will attend the September Council meeting to review the revised rate report. He incorporated Commonwealth's asset assessment report into his initial study.

Councilman Wilson reported he is doing some research on the different funds of the cemetery and what options are available for the perpetual care funds. He will make a report to Council in the next couple of months.

Councilman Warrum reported repairs and upgrades at the Murphy Park shelter house are estimated to total around \$15,000. The Park Board would like to apply for several grants to cover a majority of the cost. Approval was given by Council to apply for grants as needed.

Councilman Wilson made and Warrum seconded a motion that Ordinance 2014-4 be adopted. This ordinance pertains to flood hazard areas and is required to be adopted in order for the Town to continue as a member of the National Flood Insurance Program. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Gibbs made and Walker seconded a motion that the festival application for Kunstfest be approved. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Lynn Schaeffer asked why Council is considering getting rid of Town Marshal Scott Champlin. President Straw stated the matter is still under review. Mr. Schaeffer continued that he feels the people have spoken, and he has heard 90% of residents have signed the petition to keep him. He stated Council work for the Town, and the people are the Town. Mr. Schaeffer stated that unless Town Marshal Champlin has done something very wrong that people don't know about, they are satisfied with him.

President Straw stated there will be no open forum at this meeting.

Attorney Farrar presented an ordinance to establish an alleyway on the former Tree of Life property as requested in writing by Kent Parker at the previous meeting. Attorney Farrar stated the ordinance would need to be published following passage since it could involve fines or punishment. There was discussion regarding Mr. Parker's willingness to pay all costs incurred to establish the alleyway. Attorney Farrar does not feel a survey of the property is needed. Council members agreed that Mr. Parker should be billed for the attorney fees incurred in the establishment of the alley. Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion that Ordinance 2014-7 be adopted. Councilman Wilson disclosed that he has business interests with Mr. Parker in other matters, but he has no interest in this particular property. All were in favor except Councilman Gibbs. Motion carried.

Councilman Warrum made and Walker seconded a motion that Ordinance 2014-6 be adopted. This amends the tree ordinance as discussed at the previous meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Walker made and Warrum seconded a motion the claims be allowed and the Clerk pay the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wilson reported on a request from the New Harmony Business Associates for a sponsorship of a letter of intent to the Indiana Arts Commission for the statewide Cultural District Program. David Flanders, representing the Business Associates, stated the letter of intent is due by August 28, but the full application is not due until October 2. He plans to make a full presentation to Council on the program at their September meeting. The program does not currently have any funding available with it so the only benefit to the Town would be the designation as a cultural district. Councilman Wilson made and Walker seconded a motion for the letter of intent to be sent to the Indiana Arts Commission for the Cultural District Program. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Wilson acknowledged the work of Commissioner Jerry Walden regarding Posey County's decision to take ownership of the New Harmony Bridge.

Councilman Walker thanked those who helped make the Bicentennial Capstone Week a success.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Joe Straw, President of Town Council

Attest:

Karla L. Atkins, Clerk-Treasurer